CHRISTIAN SCIENCE: Ableist-AF

"It's Also Where the Self-Blame Comes Easy"

CONTENT WARNING
EYE-POPPING ARRAY OF BAD SHIT EXPOSED IN THIS SHOCKING ZINE! SUCH AS RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL ABUSE AND THE DISGUSTING, COLDHEARTED ABLEISM IN THE NAME OF "AGAPE" AND "LOVE" AND "NONVIOLENCE" AND "PROGRESS" AND WHATNOT!

STIMMING JIM
HELPS HIGHLIGHT BULLSHIT

RECEIPTS

"You know what happened? Kids were picking on my son [at a Christian Science camp]. They were bullying him. Wouldn't stop. My son does everything he can to be kind at all times. And people just come up to him and poke him and tease him mercilessly. Kids are cruel! My son begged this kid to stop. I've seen it so many times; kids picking on my son mercilessly until he cracks. The only way these horrible kids will stop is by being physically hit by my son. They clearly won't listen to his words and won't let him walk away or run away from their horrible bullying behavior. They follow and chase him and won't stop! So, he hit that bully kid. And: who got in trouble? The kid who taunted my kid? Nope. He is the grandson of a trustee. He couldn't ever do anything wrong. No way. It was my kid. The one with special needs and a meek demeanor. The one who keeps his hands to himself and doesn't like being touched – ever."

— The Ex-Christian Scientist, "Dear Christian Science Teacher," https://exchristianscience.com/2018/05/27/dear-christian-science-teacher/ (Content warning: use of "special needs" framing; ableist abuse; other traumatic shit)

"Well, I'll just talk about myself. I had a miserable childhood. There was alcoholism, mental illness and homophobia. There's every reason to collapse into autism. Should I forget it all and get on with my life? I'd think the healing way would be to pray for an understanding of my present spiritual source and condition, annulling the claims of mortal material process."

— New York Christian Science Group, "Healing Grief and Trauma," https://nycsgroup.com/topic.php?id=20041021

MORE RECEIPTS

"Being authentic — isn't that what it's all about?"

"Definitely. Most people can smell a phony when we're trying to reach out."

"I was talking to a Christian Scientist over the weekend who has recovered from Asberger's [sic] autism. First he got clear what the causes of this problem are said to be: genetics and perhaps inattentive mothering. He then upgraded cause to the divine; in other words, seeing God as his only source and condition. I was with him for several hours and couldn't detect any trouble."

— New York Christian Science Group, "Reaching Out," https://nycsgroup.com/topic.php?id=20041118

"When our oldest daughter, Tara, was fifteen months old and not developing normally, my husband and I were told by a neurologist that she had cerebral palsy and traits of autism. An orthopedic surgeon told me he did not think she would ever walk. He recommended that we put her in an institution and "go on with our lives. ... One challenging day, I collapsed on the floor and asked God to show me how to let go of the physical and mental burden. A question came: Who are you to usurp the creative power of God? I realized I could never do anything to outweigh God's supreme, creative, causative power. The burden of guilt and false responsibility was lifted. ... We eventually got to the point where Tara could walk up and down the driveway holding our hands. Twenty years later, she and I were able to take brisk two-hour walks around the neighborhood, and then later she could walk with a normal gait, without any traces of cerebral palsy. What a lesson about the fruits of persistence!"

Anne Stafford Petkus, "Helping a child with special needs to progress," The Christian Science Journal, July 2016

EVEN MORE RECEIPTS

"That camp director made it abundantly clear that despite the fact that everyone adores my older son, I am truly a lousy parent because my younger son isn't neurotypical. I obviously hadn't prayed correctly for 9 months when I was pregnant with him. It feels really great to be forced by a Christian Science Camp Director to Christian Science parenting classes. My husband was especially (not) grateful to be forced to go to these classes. Because, you know, he hates Christian Science and didn't really know what it was until he married me."

— The Ex-Christian Scientist, "Dear Christian Science Teacher," https://exchristianscience.com/2018/05/27/dear-christian-science-teacher/ (Content warning: use of "special needs" framing; ableist abuse; other traumatic shit)

"Then came the unveiling of error and sin in their myriad forms of guile, enticement,
and deception. They were fully exposed in the class teaching. Looking back today, I
smile quietly, recalling my attitude at the time. I was married to a super guy, we had a
dear little baby, and our life was a lark. Why in the world, I thought, do I need to
learn about error and sin? ... Two years later my husband and I were blessed with a second child, who appeared to
develop the symptoms of autism. The "lark" in my life was gone. But it was replaced
with something far greater: the desire to demonstrate what I had been learning. ... The result was that this child was completely healed of every sign of autism."

— Anne Stearns Condon, "The most important decision of my life," Christian Science Sentinel, October 13, 2014